

## The Curriculum

We follow the government's Curriculum Guidance for the Early Years Foundation Stage. These guidelines are followed by almost all establishments which provide for children aged 3 years to 5 years old. We also follow the regulations laid out in the Childcare Register.

We provide our pupils with a broad and stimulating range of experiences appropriate to their stage of development, and we ensure full coverage of the six 'areas of learning'. Learning activities are often grouped together to form cohesive 'themes' such as 'food' or 'people who help us'. We include ICT and outdoor activities in all curriculum areas. We display equipment in Montessori areas of learning and ensure through our planning and record keeping that our Montessori activities are linked to the EYFS

### **1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development:**

This area underpins all the other elements of the curriculum. We provide opportunities for the children to become valued members of the Artisans community and we help them develop a positive attitude toward learning. We teach the children how to co-operate together and work harmoniously alongside each other, and we develop their attention skills and persistence through a range of activities and play. Our snack and meal times form a group time in which we are able to support the developmental of conversational skills as well as the etiquette of good table manners.

We give the children a highly structured space in which they have complete freedom of choice. This allows them to follow their own interests and ensures they spend only as long as is appropriate to their developmental stage on any activity. Allowing the children to follow their curiosity means they achieve things they are proud of faster. This builds their confidence quickly making them increasingly willing to tackle new challenges.

Our "Children's Learning " Policy includes a section about the importance of the different relationships children build.

### **2. Communication, Language and Literacy**

We provide activities in which the children can communicate in a wide range of situations, where they can listen and respond to adults and each other and practice and extend their range of vocabulary. Role play is a key feature of this learning. We have a dedicated and changing role play area at all times. We teach reading and writing skills by providing opportunities where the children explore, enjoy and use words in a broad range of contexts, and where they can experience a rich variety of books. We will also have a large amount of environmental text. Listening and speaking skills form part of our daily routines in countless ways. We aim to enable the children to express themselves successfully and be understood by others.

### **3. Mathematical Development**

The children develop their understanding of number, measurement, pattern, shape and space through practical tasks and discussion. Through these experiences, the children learn to count, sort, match, seek patterns, make connections, and recognize relationships when working with numbers, shape, space and measures. They also learn to record their ideas at a level appropriate to their stage of development.

### **4. Knowledge and Understanding of the World**

The curriculum provides opportunities for the children to solve problems, make decisions, experiment, predict, plan and question in a varied range of contexts - and to explore and find out about their environment and people and places that have significance in their lives. As a Montessori Kindergarten we have an entire area dedicated to Cultural Studies.

### **5. Physical Development**

Children's fine and gross motor skills are developed through play and structured tasks. We help them develop an understanding of how their bodies work and what they need to do to be healthy and safe. They also learn how to take part in games, yoga and dance-based activities, and have opportunities to play on a range of outdoor apparatus and wheeled vehicles. Our Practical Life area has a multitude of rotating equipment to help children learn and explore everyday skills such as clothes fastenings, cutting, sharpening pencils, pouring, polishing, spooning, whisking, stacking and a wealth of others.

### **6. Creative Development**

The children take part in a huge variety of art, design and technology, music, movement, dance and imaginative and role-play activities to develop their ability to explore and share their thoughts, ideas and feelings.

### Designated Staff Member

Ruth Martin

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Designated teacher Ruth Rawlings